

EMPIRE CITY, OREGON.

MEMORIAL

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF OREGON TERRITORY,

ASKING

That Empire City be made a port of entry.

APRIL 17, 1856.—Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

Your memorialist, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Oregon, would most respectfully represent unto your honorable body, that, in the judgment of your memorialist, it would be productive of great good, and of interest to the government of the United States, and this Territory in particular, to establish Empire City, on Coos bay, a port of entry, for the following reasons which we would respectfully submit to your honorable body, viz:

The bay is large and commodious, and susceptible of containing a large fleet; it also is surrounded by the finest forests of ship and lumbering timber on the coast of Oregon, which is now attracting the attention of capitalists; also an inexhaustible coal-field. There are at this time two railroads completed, which at present are transporting over them two hundred tons of coal per day. Vessels now employed in the trade are compelled to go to Port Orford or San Francisco, unless foreign; thereby having to incur a great expense and loss of time, and also depriving the government (if they are so disposed) of her revenue. Immediately upon this portion of the coast, exist the most extensive fishing grounds known upon the entire western coast, called "Perpetua Banks," which abound with the finest cod and halibut fish, which, when fully developed, must become one of the principal articles of commerce. Therefore, we, your memorialist, would

most respectfully urge the declaring and creating of Empire City a port of entry ; whereby our young and growing commerce may have thrown around it the fostering care of the government.

Passed the Council January 30, 1856.

Passed the House January 30, 1856.

DELAZON SMITH,

Speaker of the House of Reps.

A. P. DENNISON,

President of the Council.

TERRITORY OF OREGON, ss :

I, B. F. Harding, secretary of the Territory of Oregon, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and perfect copy of the original memorial now on file in my office.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed
[SEAL.] the seal of the Territory, at Salem, this 12th day of February A. D. 1856.

B. F. HARDING,

Secretary of Oregon Territory.